

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2, 4, and 6 through 19 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 3 and 5 as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus for receiving and processing a plurality of moving image signals, and outputting one moving image signal, said image processing apparatus comprising:

a first image input unit which inputs a first moving image signal;

a second image input unit which inputs a second moving image signal;

a band segmentation unit which segments a first frame image in the first moving image signal into a plurality of different frequency band components and which segments a second frame image in the second moving image signal into a plurality of different frequency band components; and

an image composition unit which composites the first frame image and the second frame image, each of the first frame image and the second frame image having been segmented by said band segmentation unit, by replacing some or all image data in common frequency band components between the first frame image and the second frame image, and which generates a third moving image signal composed of composited frame images,

wherein, when the output of said image processing apparatus is switched from the

first moving image signal to the second moving image signal, said image composition unit outputs the third moving image signal in an interval of the first moving image signal and the second moving image signal.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) An apparatus-implemented image processing method for receiving and processing a plurality of moving image signals, and outputting one moving image signal, said image processing method comprising:

a first image input step of inputting a first moving image signal;

a second image input step of inputting a second moving image signal;

a band segmentation step of segmenting a first frame image in the first moving image signal into a plurality of different frequency band components and of segmenting a second frame image in the second moving image signal into a plurality of different frequency band components; and

an image composition step of compositing the first frame image and the second frame image, each of the first frame image and the second frame image having been segmented by said band segmentation step, by replacing some or all image data in common frequency band components between the first frame image and the second frame image, and of generating a third moving image signal composed of composited frame images,

wherein, when output is switched from the first moving image signal to the second moving image signal, said image composition step outputs the third moving image signal in an

interval of the first moving image signal and the second moving image signal.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program code for causing a computer to execute:

a first image input step of inputting a first moving image signal;

a second image input step of inputting a second moving image signal;

a band segmentation step of segmenting a first frame image in the first moving image signal into a plurality of different frequency band components and of segmenting a second frame image in the second moving image signal into a plurality of different frequency band components; and

an image composition step of compositing the first frame image and the second frame image, each of the first frame image and the second frame image having been segmented by said band segmentation step, by replacing some or all image data in common frequency band components between the first frame image and the second frame image, and of generating a third moving image signal composed of composited frame images,

wherein, when output is switched from the first moving image signal to the second moving image signal, said image composition step outputs the third moving image signal in an interval of the first moving image signal and the second moving image signal, and

wherein the recording medium is one of a magnetic recording medium, an optical recording medium, and a semiconductor memory.

6-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said image composition unit gradually replaces image data in frequency band components of third frame images in the third moving image signal, from image data in frequency band components of the first frame image to image data in frequency band components of the second frame image.

21. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said image composition unit is a unit that applies a visual effect to images, and wherein third frame images in the third moving image signal represent a cross fade effect between the first frame image and the second frame image.